

HAMFEST EDITION



# THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
Founded in 1931

Presenting

## ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018

SATURDAY JUNE 2, 2018

Sponsored By The

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

At The

HILTON EXEMPT CLUB

137 SOUTH AVE

HILTON, NEW YORK 14468

Talk-in: WR2AHL Repeater 145.11MHZ, 110.9PL

Secondary: N2MPE Repeater 146.61MHZ, 110.9PL

2018 HAMFEST  
VOLUME 70, ISSUE HF

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### Admission:

RARA members are **FREE**.

Under 18 years of age **FREE**.

Student with college ID are **FREE**.

Non-members are **\$10**.

Flea Market Vehicle Parking is **\$10**

General Parking is **FREE**

Look for the Rochester  
Hamfest on APRS

Contact: K2JD

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRODUCERS

Greetings from the Hamfest Committee. We're excited to invite you to another excellent event!

As you've seen on the cover, we've moved to Hilton Exempt Club (137 South Ave, Hilton, NY 14468). There will be signs at the nearest intersections to help guide you in.

We expect that we will have sufficient parking for the event. Please park close together to leave room for as many other attendees as possible.

Gates will open at 6am for flea market vendors and 7am for the general public on Saturday June 2nd. Those recipients of the RAG that live further away may choose to arrive Friday in the late afternoon or evening and get their RV or trailer parked and ready for the next day. (Please see page 3 for additional information on bringing an RV.)

General parking is free. Admission is FREE for RARA members, \$10 for non-members, and free for those under 18 years of age or with a student ID. Please have the correct change if possible as this will help speed up the entry process. If you are a member, bring your membership card. If you have never received one, don't worry – the admission team will have a list of current members.

Any vehicle brought into the flea market is a flat rate of \$10 per vehicle.

We will have VEs proctoring FREE exams from 10AM till noon.

Of course there will be hundreds of other hams to socialize with, learn from, and get a great deal on something they don't need anymore.

The event is in a field. The grass will be mowed down, but be prepared for an imperfect surface.

Please keep an eye on <http://rochesterhamfest.org/Hamfest.htm> for any last-minute updates or send an e-mail to [hfproducer@rochesterham.org](mailto:hfproducer@rochesterham.org) with any questions you may have.

We look forward to seeing you there!  
Sincerely, Your Hamfest Committee:  
Tim Guyot  
Mike Moore  
Mike Kolstee

## ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018 SCHEDULE

6:00 AM	Flea Market opens for sellers to set up Breakfast Service Opens
7:00 AM	Flea market and general parking open
8:00 AM	Door Prize Drawings
9:00 AM	Door Prize Drawings
9:45 AM	VE Session Registration
10:00 AM	Door Prize Drawings VE Session Starts
10:30 AM	Breakfast Service Closes Lunch Service Opens
11:00 AM	Door Prize Drawings
11:15 AM	Talk-in Prize Drawing
11:30 AM	Technology Grant Announcement
12:00 PM	Grand Bucket Prize Drawings VE Session Ends
1:00 PM	Lunch Service Closes
2:00 PM	Hamfest Close

## NOTES FOR RVs / CAMPERS

1. Arrival – No earlier than 6:00 PM on Friday June 2, 2017. Please see a volunteer or the on-site security guard for specific parking instructions.
2. Departure – No later than 3:30 PM on Saturday June 3, 2017.
3. All RVs will be charged a \$10 entry fee. There is no overnight fee.
4. There are no utilities (water/electric/waste) available. Please minimize generator use at night as the venue backs up to a neighborhood. Porta-Potties are available on site.
5. Antennas are permitted (reasonable size).
6. All trash must be placed in dumpster/containers provided.
7. Electronic waste **MUST** be carried out – a minimum of \$50 (per piece) will be charged for any waste left behind.
8. Leave the area in no worse condition than when you arrived.
9. No loud noise is permitted at anytime.
10. No fires of any kind are permitted on the grounds.
11. Quiet between 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM.
12. Refer any issues/concerns to the on-site security guard.
13. Be considerate of the residential areas around you.

## ADMISSION

Admission to the hamfest is **FREE** for RARA members and \$10 for non-members. Those under 18 years of age or with a college ID are free. Please have the correct change if possible as this will help speed up the entry process. If you are a member, bring your membership card. If you have never received one, don't worry – the admission team will have a list of current members.

General parking is free. Flea market parking is \$10 per vehicle.

## DOOR PRIZES

We have some very exciting door prizes. To be eligible to win a door prize, place the matching stub from your entry ticket in the raffle drum at the raffle table.

There will be prize draws every hour from 8:00am to 11:00am and the winning ticket numbers will be displayed at the Raffle Table so make sure you remember to check that out! We will announce the winners over the PA system.

Present your winning entry ticket at the raffle table to receive your prize. You must be present to win



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# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018 SITE MAP

RARA will operate a single main entrance from RT-259. Vehicles parking in the flea market will be directed to turn left and follow the yellow arrow to the flea market. Regular parking is located straight ahead to the area marked Free Parking. Handicapped Parking is as shown in front of the Indoor space. Tickets and Flea Market spaces may be purchased at the ticket booth which is located in the center of the Hamfest site



# PRIZE SCHEDULE

## 8:00 AM Door Prize

- 3 year digital subscription to CQ magazine
- 1 year subscription to QRP Quarterly
- 1 year subscription to QRP Quarterly
- \$10 Gift Certificate from RF Adapter Guy
- LED Work light from Universal Radio
- \$50 ARRL Gift Certificate
- Kenwood Go Bag

## 9:00 AM Door Prize

- Radio Communications Handbook from RSGB
- 1 year subscription to QRP Quarterly
- SMA 24 Antenna from NCG
- 1 year subscription to Nuts and Volts
- 1 year subscription to AudioXpress
- \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate
- Discovering DX

## 10:00 AM Door Prize

- 3 year digital subscription to CQ magazine
- 1 year subscription to QRP Quarterly
- 1 year subscription to SERVO magazine
- 1 year subscription to Circuit Cellar
- Shortwave Receivers book from Universal Radio
- Software Defined Radio from RSGB
- Listening to Longwave

## 11:00 AM Door Prize

- 1 year subscription to Circuit Cellar
- 1 year subscription to QRP Quarterly
- Soldering Tool Kit
- 1 year subscription to AudioXpress
- Loop Antenna Handbook from Universal Radio
- Pilsner Glasses from NCG
- 60 Antennas You Will Want To Build from RSGB
- A Family Affair

## 11:15 AM Talk In Prize

- \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate

## 11:30 AM Technology Grant

- RARA Technology Grant Award Announcement

## 12 NOON Grand Bucket Prize

- Bird Model 43 Wattmeter and Certificate for an element
- Yaesu FT-8900 radio
- Signalink USB
- RXTX Ensemble 40/30/20M SDR
- \$100 Gift Certificate from DX Engineering



# THE GRAND BUCKET RAFFLE

In addition to door prizes we have a Bucket Raffle for some great prizes. To enter the Grand Bucket Raffle you may buy as many raffle tickets as you like and put each one in the bucket for the prize of your choice. If you wish, you can put all your tickets in the same bucket or go for a wider range of possible prizes by putting tickets in several buckets. It's completely up to you.

- Bird Model 43 Wattmeter
- Yaesu FT-8900 4 band FM radio
- Tigertronics Signalink USB
- RXTX Ensemble 40/30/20 SDR radio from Five Dash
- \$100 Gift Certificate from DX Engineering

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 13 for \$10. You can buy them at the Raffle Table in the main building till 11:45am. The drawing for the Bucket Raffle prizes will take place at 12 noon. You do not have to be present to win, just make sure you have put your contact details on the raffle ticket before you drop it in the bucket of your choice. Print Clearly. If we can't read it, you can't win. If your details are up to date on QRZ.com or with the FCC then your call sign will be enough to identify you.

## TALK-IN PRIZE

As you are traveling to the hamfest, there will be a Talk-In station on WR2AHL repeater, 145.11MHz, 110.9PL. When you check in with the talk-in station you will be eligible for a prize of a \$25 ARRL gift certificate. You must be present to win. The drawing will take place at 11:15AM. The winner will be announced on the PA.



## Other Attractions While You Are In Rochester



[Charlotte – Genesee Lighthouse](#)

[Eastman Museum](#)

[Eastman Theater](#)

[Kilbourn Hall](#)

[Strong National Museum of Play](#)

[Rochester Museum and Science Center](#)

[Red Wing Baseball](#)

[Memorial Art Gallery](#)

[Susan B. Anthony House](#)

[Geva Theater](#)

[Seneca Park Zoo](#)

[Strasenburgh Planetarium](#)

[University of Rochester](#)

[Rochester Institute of Technology](#)

[Nazareth College Art Center](#)

[Seabreeze Amusement Park](#)

# 2018 GRAND BUCKET RAFFLE PRIZES

## BUCKET PRIZE #1



Bird Wattmeter  
Model 43

## BUCKET PRIZE #4



Built-in low noise sound card  
USB port powered  
Complete radio to PC isolation

## BUCKET PRIZE #2



FT-8900 50W, Quadband,  
VHF/UHF Mobile Radio



## BUCKET PRIZE #5



SoftRock RXTX Ensemble  
40/30/20 M  
SDR Transceiver



## BUCKET PRIZE #3



\$100 Gift Certificate

# A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

©Ed Gable K2MP RARA Historian  
Curator Emeritus, Antique Wireless Museum

For those of you who never experienced a typical three-day Rochester Hamfest of the late 1970's and 1980's, let us wander through a typical hamfest weekend. On Friday, at Noon, the large flea market, covering all of the parking lots surrounding the Dome arena, were filled with individual hams and many smaller vendors who could not acquire indoor space. The flea market would continue until Sunday afternoon with time out only at night when the County run Fairgrounds were closed.

After a nice day of flea market bargain hunting it was off to the convention hotel, often the Marriott Inn on W. Henrietta Road, for what was called the Friday Night Funfest. There you would meet arriving out-of-town guests or just saddle up to the bar and catch up on the news with on-air friends. Entertainment was always provided and this writer remembers well when a chap sat down next to me at the lounge and introduced himself as Alvino Ray, W6UK. A bit later he excused himself and left only to be seen again on stage playing guitar and performing as a member of the King family musical group.



W2RUF Code Contest, 1954

Saturday morning saw the flea market in full swing for the long day and more bargain hunting. Many people just spent the day in the market but in doing that they missed so much more available. First, let's keep the ladies happy. Special buses would take them to professional skin care and makeup lessons and to a Spring Fashion show at Midtown Plaza arranged by McCurdy's Department Store.

OK, now to ham activities and a typical Saturday schedule that included opening of the Dome at 9:00 a.m. At the same time that flea market and vendor sales were in process was a full

day of programming including; FCC Exams, Army, Air Force and Navy/Marine Corps MARS programs, Public Operations Net program, an Antenna forum, often with popular Lew McCoy, W1ICP from the ARRL, and a QCWA gathering. Did I mention that was just the morning period. Lunch was easily had on-site or many friends and groups headed out for sit-down lunches at nearby eateries. Not too long, though, as we had to get back for the afternoon schedule.

After lunch saw the annual NY State Code Receiving contest conducted by Clara Regar, W2RUF, and assisted by Bill Thompson, W2MTA. CW not for you ? No matter, let's go to the FCC forum to learn the latest regulations affecting us all by top FCC officials, then off to the ARRL Forum to meet and greet ARRL top officers as well as those from the ARRL Atlantic Division and the Western NY Section.

Time to rest a bit as next stop is the Saturday night reception at the hotel followed immediately by the Annual Banquet and Awards Presentation, often in this time frame hosted by Eddie Dunn, W2ECH, of WHAM fame. Everyone sat on the edge of their seats in anticipation of the announcement of who would be the Radio Amateur of the Year. It's mid-night; are we done? No, not yet, as we still have the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong ceremony to induct new members. It was a frightening and terrible hazing to go through, but we all seemed to make it to the next day.

Sunday morning saw the ever going flea market and the Old Timers Breakfast hosted by Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, who after breakfast would take the gang to the AWA museum. At the same time the Dome re-opened and more programs including Computers and Microprocessors, VHF Propagation by Mel Wilson, W2BOC, OSCAR satellites by Fred Becker, W2GV, Club and Training activities by Chod Harris, WB2CHO, AREAS activities by Bob Halprin WA1WEM, of the ARRL Staff and closing programs for the day a two meter FM transmitter hunt on the Flea Market grounds.

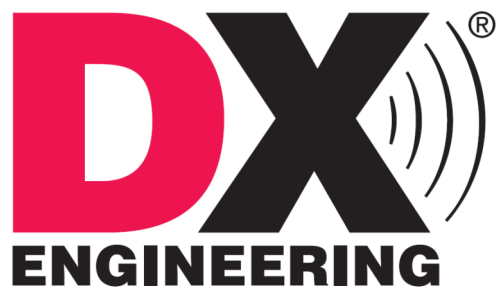
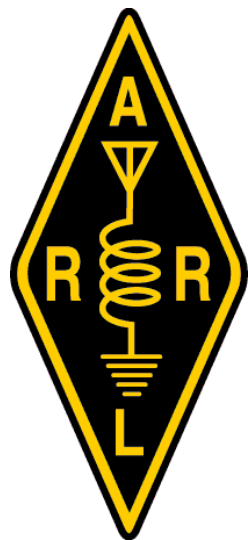
Now we reached Sunday afternoon and there is a different kind of busy work as vendors tear down their displays and flea market sellers fold up and pack their cars and vans. Highways and the Thruway get crowded as wide-eyed hamfest goers, heads filled with pleasant memories, head home in anticipation of next years Rochester Hamfest.



Wouff  
Hong



# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018 SUPPORTERS AND VENDORS



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# PRICING TO SELL (IN THE FLEA MARKET)



There are two goals when it comes to Flea Market success:

- Making it easy for buyers to know what you brought
- Going home without it.

Here is a guide for doing both, effectively!

## First...

... research the market-worth of the item you wish to sell. An easy way is to check e-Bay...but NOT for the reason that you think.

Items on e-Bay that are unsold are OVERPRICED. Those that sell did so because they have a national audience. If you want to sell at the RARA Rochester Hamfest, consider a price that is NO HIGHER than 70% of those found on e-Bay as your ASKING price...knowing that you WILL be asked to take something less (and be prepared to!).

This is not a reflection on your value. It is a reflection on the markets' value. You brought it to the Flea Market to sell...not to go home with. Selling early lets you scour the market for a deal of your own to go home with!

## Second...

... label your asking price for your items, individually. A sign that says "Make

Offer" without an asking price really means "I don't want to sell it".

## Third...

... along with being prepared with an asking price, attach a 3x5 card with a few short bullets about the items' specifications. No more than 3 bullets. People are walking-by. Most won't take the time to read a paragraph.

## Fourth...

... be ready to talk about what you have. Those bulleted lists will simply start conversations. After that, it is up to you to make it easy to go home without it (the reason you came!).

In conclusion, as you prepare to sell in the Flea Market try to remember that you are there to "go home without it". Your connection to the item has already been paid for by the years of great service that the item has already given to you. You are giving the next owner the opportunity to start building their own memories. Set a price that will allow them to start doing so right away!





# SELLING IN THE COUNTRY STORE



**HELP YOURSELF -- HELP THE CLUB:  
BRING EQUIPMENT TO DONATE  
(TO SUPPORT THE HAMFEST),  
OR STUFF WE'LL SELL FOR YOU.**

## **HERE'S THE SCOOP:**

PLEASE LOOK IN YOUR HAM STASH AND FIND EQUIPMENT THAT YOU WANT TO DONATE TO OUR CLUB. BY DONATING IT, YOU HELP US PAY FOR THIS HAMFEST. WE HEAVILY RELY ON OUR ATTENDEES.

OR YOU CAN FIND THAT ITEM YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRADE FOR CASH. LEAVE IT WITH US, AND WE WILL SELL IT FOR YOU. READ ON,...

Even if you are not a RARA member, you can donate or sell your (non-junk) stuff on RARA's table at the Country Store! What a GREAT way to enjoy the Flea Market and sell your item(s) at the same time!

If you want to sell your stuff through us, we ask only that your item(s) be amateur radio equipment that is (honestly) valued at \$25 or more and that you consider a 10% donation to RARA for our efforts. (Unfortunately, we can't accept boxes of loose parts or piles of coax and the like, either for donation or consignment. It just won't get sold.)

The Country Store will open for DONATIONS AND CONSIGNMENTS at 6:30 AM. This will allow time to complete some simple paperwork. The Country Store will open for BUYERS at 7:00 AM.

DONATORS and SELLERS can bring items to the Country Store at any time during the hamfest...but getting them there earlier will allow more time to be seen by buyers.

We will staff the Country Store, display your items and do our best to connect your item(s) to a buyer. If the potential buyer has any questions, we will try to connect the two of you together. NOTE: Bring an HT or have your cell phone handy.

Setting a realistic selling price is important. Country Store staff won't haggle. If the buyer thinks they want to, then we will try to connect the two of you together. NOTE (again): Bring an HT or have your cell phone handy.

How do you set a realistic selling price? Repeating (and somewhat modifying) information found in the section titled, "Selling in the Flea Market"...

## **First...**

... research the market-worth of the item you wish to sell. An easy way is to check e-Bay...but NOT for the reason that you think.

Items on e-Bay that are unsold are OVERPRICED. Those that sell did so because they have a national audience. If you want to sell at the RARA Rochester Hamfest, consider a price that is NO HIGHER than 70% of those found on e-Bay. Serious buyers may see the value and buy. CLEARLY, this is a generalization. There are some highly desirable items that will sell for more.

Ultimately, your Country Store price is YOURS to set.

## **Second...**

... when you drop off your item(s), you will be required to provide a general description of the item. People will browse a bit longer in the Country Store so include anything that will help to make the sale (specs, etc.)

## **Third...**

... bring an HT or keep your cell phone handy! (wait ... where have I heard that before?)

In conclusion, as you prepare to sell in the Country Store, try to remember that you want to "go home without it". We're here to help you to reach that goal!

# DOOR PRIZES



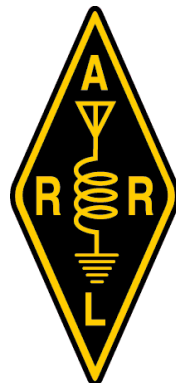
Two 3 Year Subscriptions



Five 1 Year Subscriptions

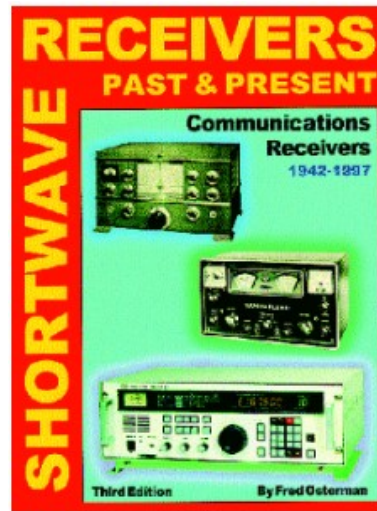


2M/70cm HT Antenna w/SMA



\$25 Gift Certificate

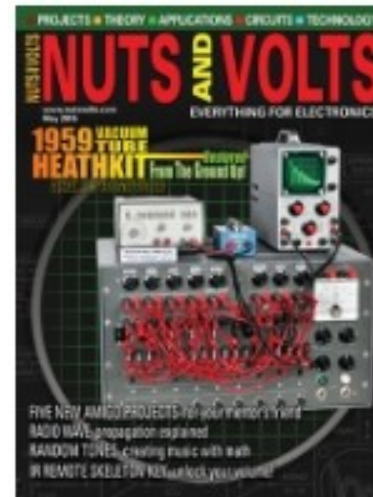
\$50 Gift Certificate



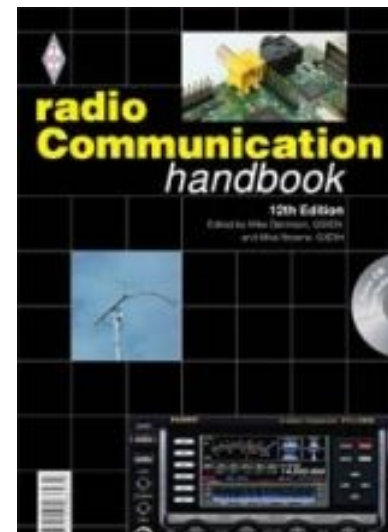
Shortwave Receivers Past & Present



Pilsner Glasses



1 Year Subscription



Radio Communications Handbook



1 Year Subscription

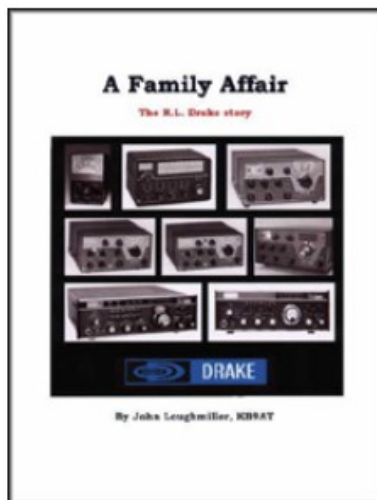


1 Year Subscription





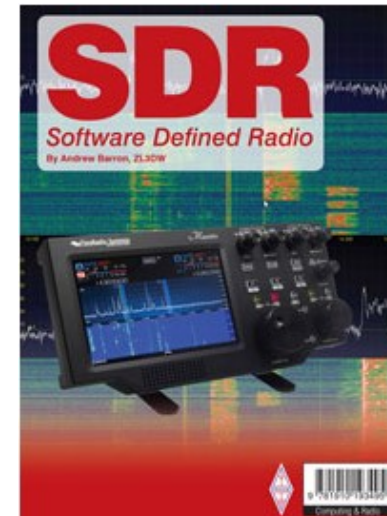
60 Antennas



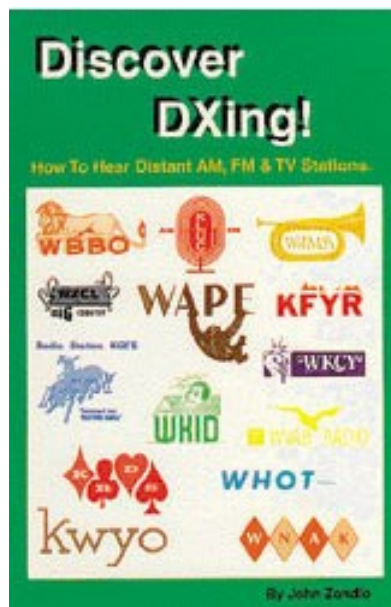
A Family Affair



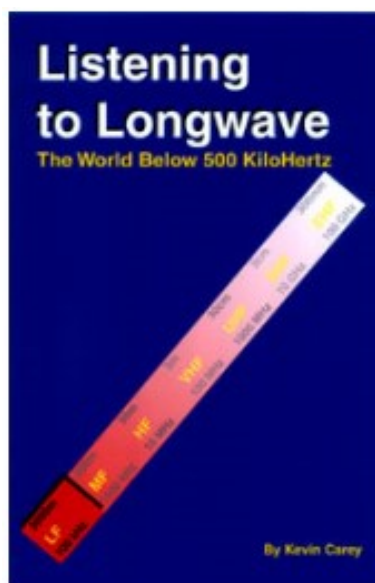
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# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018 DIRECTIONS

The 2018 Rochester Hamfest site is located just south of the village of Hilton on Rt 259. This is a major north / south route and is accessible from the 490 , 531 expressways and the Lake Ontario State Parkway. See the map following and list of directions.

## **From the NYS Thruway I-90 eastbound from Batavia.**

Exit the Thruway at exit 47, continue straight out of the tollbooth on to I 490. Take I-490 north and east to the Rt. 259 exit. Turn left off of the exit driving north toward Hilton. Hilton Exempt Club is on the left.

## **From the NYS Thruway I-90 westbound from Canandaigua.**

Exit the Thruway at exit 45, continue straight out of the tollbooth on to I 490. Take I-490 north and west through the city of Rochester. Exit 490 on to Rt-531. Continue on RT-531 to the Rt. 259 exit. Turn right off of the exit driving north toward Hilton. Hilton Exempt Club is on the left.

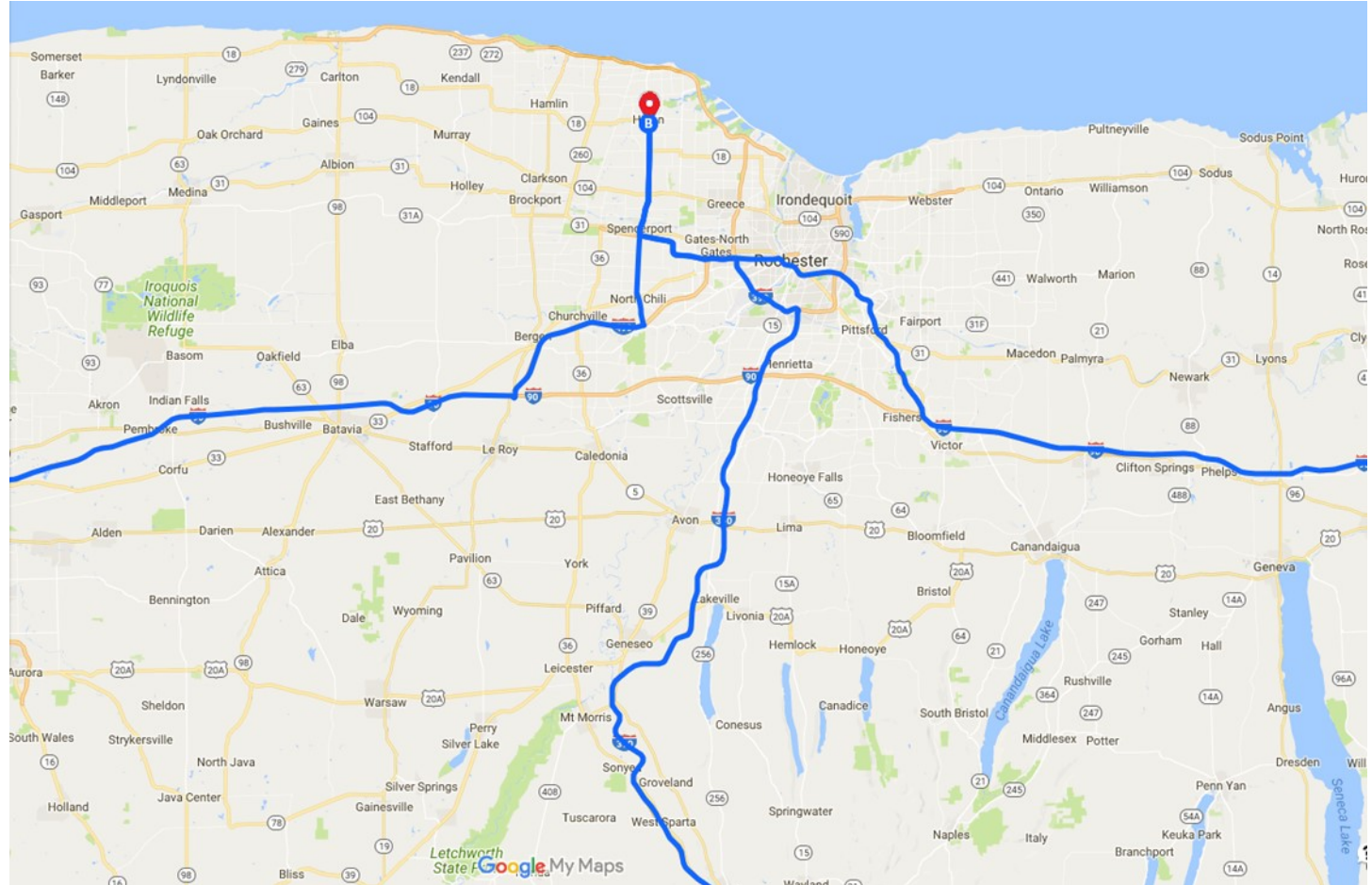
## **From I-390 northbound from Avon.**

Continue on I-390 north and west through the split with I-590. Exit I-390 at the I-490 intersection and go west on I-490. Exit 490 on to Rt-531. Continue on RT-531 to the Rt. 259 exit. Turn right off of the exit driving north toward Hilton. Hilton Exempt Club is on the left.

## **From Lake Ontario Parkway.**

Turn south at the Rt. 259 exit. Proceed south through the village of Hilton. Rt 259 make a left then right turn in the village. Hilton Exempt Club is on the right.

MCARES will be operating the K2JD talk in station using the 145.11 (110.9) WR2AHL repeater for the hamfest



# RARA MARKETPLACE

Your commercial ad could be here! The RARA RAG can help spread the word on your business at very reasonable rates.  
Contact us for details at [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org).

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N2HEG

## PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS WITH RAG ADVERTISING

Ad size and cost—**per year**:

Business Card	\$140
Quarter Page	\$300
Half Page	\$600

Your advertisement will be seen by amateurs in Rochester, Monroe County, New York State, the United States and even the rest of the world. RAG circulation is approx. 4,500.

**Pass it forward**  
by donating your radio  
or accessory to RARA.



Your item may be sold at future RARA events with proceeds to benefit RARA members.

You will get a tax-deductible receipt and the satisfaction that comes with doing good for others.

Call 585-210-8910 or email  
[Secretary@RochesterHam.org](mailto:Secretary@RochesterHam.org).

RARA is an IRS 501.c.3 non-profit

Consult with your tax advisor.

# RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

## OFFICERS

<b>President:</b> Forest Shick, WA2MZG	(585) 721-1653	<a href="mailto:wa2mzg@arrl.net">wa2mzg@arrl.net</a>	<b>Treasurer:</b> Brian O'Connor, KA2CGB	(585) 721-2346	<a href="mailto:ka2cgb@arrl.net">ka2cgb@arrl.net</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b> Tim Guyot, KB1POP	(585) 406-3163	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a>	<b>Secretary:</b> Anand Choudri, KC2KPG	(585) 377-0759	<a href="mailto:kc2kpg@arrl.net">kc2kpg@arrl.net</a>

## DIRECTORS

Tim Barrett, K9VB	(585) 582-2108	<a href="mailto:tim.k9vb@gmail.com">tim.k9vb@gmail.com</a>	Mark Pedersen, KC2UES	(585) 613-4052	<a href="mailto:mpeder21@gmail.com">mpeder21@gmail.com</a>
Tim Brown, WB2PAY	(585) 750-2087	<a href="mailto:tjbrown@rochester.rr.com">tjbrown@rochester.rr.com</a>	Gary Skuse, KA1NJL	(585) 223-1511	<a href="mailto:ka1njl@arrl.net">ka1njl@arrl.net</a>
Don Kiser, AC2EV	(585) 613-1035	<a href="mailto:dkiser100@gmail.com">dkiser100@gmail.com</a>	Scott Theis, W2LW	(845) 774-9809	<a href="mailto:sa_theis@hotmail.com">sa_theis@hotmail.com</a>
Mike Moore, KC2NM	(585) 721-0011	<a href="mailto:mikemoore@ieee.org">mikemoore@ieee.org</a>			

## ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

<b>Club Historian</b>	Ed Gable, K2MP	<a href="mailto:egable@rochester.rr.com">egable@rochester.rr.com</a>	<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Tim Barrett, K9VB	<a href="mailto:tim.k9vb@gmail.com">tim.k9vb@gmail.com</a>
<b>Club Station Trustee</b>	Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	<a href="mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net">n2ixd@arrl.net</a>	<b>Public Service</b>	Mike Moore, KC2NM	<a href="mailto:mikemoore@ieee.org">mikemoore@ieee.org</a>
<b>Education</b>	Tim Brown, WB2PAY	<a href="mailto:tjbrown@rochester.rr.com">tjbrown@rochester.rr.com</a>	<b>Raffle Administrators</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	
<b>Hamfest Co-Producers</b>	Tim Guyot, KB1POP Mike Kolstee, KD2IZQ Mike Moore, KC2NM	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:mckolst@yahoo.com">mckolst@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:mikemoore@ieee.org">mikemoore@ieee.org</a>	<b>RARA RAG Editor</b>	Forest Shick, WA2MZG Dawn Lepard, KC2VJU	<a href="mailto:editor@rochesterham.org">editor@rochesterham.org</a> <a href="mailto:dawn@lepard.ca">dawn@lepard.ca</a>
<b>VE Team</b>	Don Kiser, AC2EV	<a href="mailto:dkiser100@gmail.com">dkiser100@gmail.com</a>	<b>Refreshments</b>	Kelly Nichols, KD0FOP Robert Mac Donald, KD2OHI	
<b>Media Communications</b>	Tim Guyot, KB1POP	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a>	<b>Venture Crew</b>	Stephen Fell, K2SRF Mark Pedersen, KC2UES	<a href="mailto:k2srf@rochester.rr.com">k2srf@rochester.rr.com</a> <a href="mailto:mpeder21@gmail.com">mpeder21@gmail.com</a>
<b>Meeting Audio</b>	Brad Allen, KB2CHY	<a href="mailto:ballen@frontiernet.net">ballen@frontiernet.net</a>	<b>Webmaster</b>	Scott Theis, W2LW	<a href="mailto:webmaster@rochesterham.org">webmaster@rochesterham.org</a>





**RARA meets at 7PM on the  
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## **ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS**

### **Antique Wireless Association (AWA)**

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN: [lbisha@rochester.rr.com](mailto:lbisha@rochester.rr.com)

### **Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier (ARAST)**

Reiner Dieg, N2PEZ: [rdieg@yahoo.com](mailto:rdieg@yahoo.com).

### **Astronomy Section Rochester Academy of Science**

Mark Minarich: [mminaric@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mminaric@rochester.rr.com)

### **Community Amateur Radio Club (CARC)**

Joe Gangi, AC2NB: [ac2nb.carc@gmail.com](mailto:ac2nb.carc@gmail.com)

### **Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP)**

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL: [ka1njl@arrl.net](mailto:ka1njl@arrl.net)

### **Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)**

Alan Cook, K2MPE: [alancook948@gmail.com](mailto:alancook948@gmail.com)

### **Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club**

Jim Sutton, N2OPS: [jim@otrym.org](mailto:jim@otrym.org)

### **Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.**

Bill Boyd, N3DSP: [N3DSP@lafireline.net](mailto:N3DSP@lafireline.net)

### **Monroe County ARES**

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD: [n2ixd@arrl.net](mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net)

### **Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)**

Terry Cook, K2EYS: [k2eys@ocarc.us](mailto:k2eys@ocarc.us)

### **Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)**

Forest Shick, WA2MZG: [wa2mzg@arrl.net](mailto:wa2mzg@arrl.net)

### **Rochester DX Association (RDXA)**

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS: [cshalvoy@att.net](mailto:cshalvoy@att.net)

### **Rochester Makerspace**

Jason Peppers: [floedaedalus@yahoo.com](mailto:floedaedalus@yahoo.com)

### **Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)**

Bob Shewell, N2HJD: [bshewell@frontiernet.net](mailto:bshewell@frontiernet.net)

### **Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)**

John Stevens, WB2BYP: [wb2byp@arrl.net](mailto:wb2byp@arrl.net)

### **Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)**

Steve Benton, WB2VMR: [sbenton2@rochester.rr.com](mailto:sbenton2@rochester.rr.com)

### **Westside Amateur Radio Club**

Justin Grigg, KC2EQU: [communications@westsideamateurradio.club](mailto:communications@westsideamateurradio.club)

### **XXR Amateur Radio Club**

Brian Donovan, K2AS: [k2as@outlook.com](mailto:k2as@outlook.com)